

Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) Among Arizona Youth

The Impact of Chlamydia and Gonorrhea in Adolescents, 2006

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May 15, 2007

Dear Community Stakeholder:

The Arizona Department of Health Services, STD Control Program, is pleased to provide this brief report on the impact of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) among Arizona youth. The subsequent information, as depicted in the graphs and tables herein, highlights the growing STD epidemic affecting our state's young people.

Sexually transmitted diseases can cause significant health problems among those who become infected. For instance, untreated chlamydia and gonorrhea can lead to pelvic inflammatory disease (PID). PID can become recurrent among young women and girls often leading to expensive health complications. Other young women may suffer ectopic pregnancies and chronic pelvic pain. Worse still, sexually transmitted diseases can lead to infertility.

As demonstrated in this report, chlamydia is more frequently diagnosed in young females than it is in young males. There are several reasons that account for this disparity. First of all, women seek out healthcare with more regularity than men. Second, national chlamydia screening guidelines recommend annual testing among sexually active women 25 years and younger. Similar screening guidelines do not exist for men. Finally, chlamydia infection is frequently asymptomatic in men (and sometimes in women); thus, infected persons may be unaware of the infection and are never diagnosed appropriately.

As presented in this report, figures depicting juvenile detention chlamydia testing also demonstrate alarming numbers among incarcerated youth. Indeed, these youth need targeted education and prevention resources that will enable them to make healthy decisions regarding sexual activity.

Finally, the STD Control Program would like to emphasize that Arizona law permits minors to seek treatment for sexually transmitted diseases without parental or guardian consent. Specifically, *ARS § 44-132.01* states:

Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, a minor who may have contracted a venereal disease may give consent to the furnishing of hospital or medical care related to the diagnosis or treatment of such disease and such consent shall not be subject to disaffirmance because of minority. The consent of the parent, parents or legal guardian of such a person shall not be necessary in order to authorize hospital or medical care.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with further questions regarding STD education, prevention, and screening opportunities.

Sincerely,

Alfonso Urquidi, Jr., MPA
STD Program Manager

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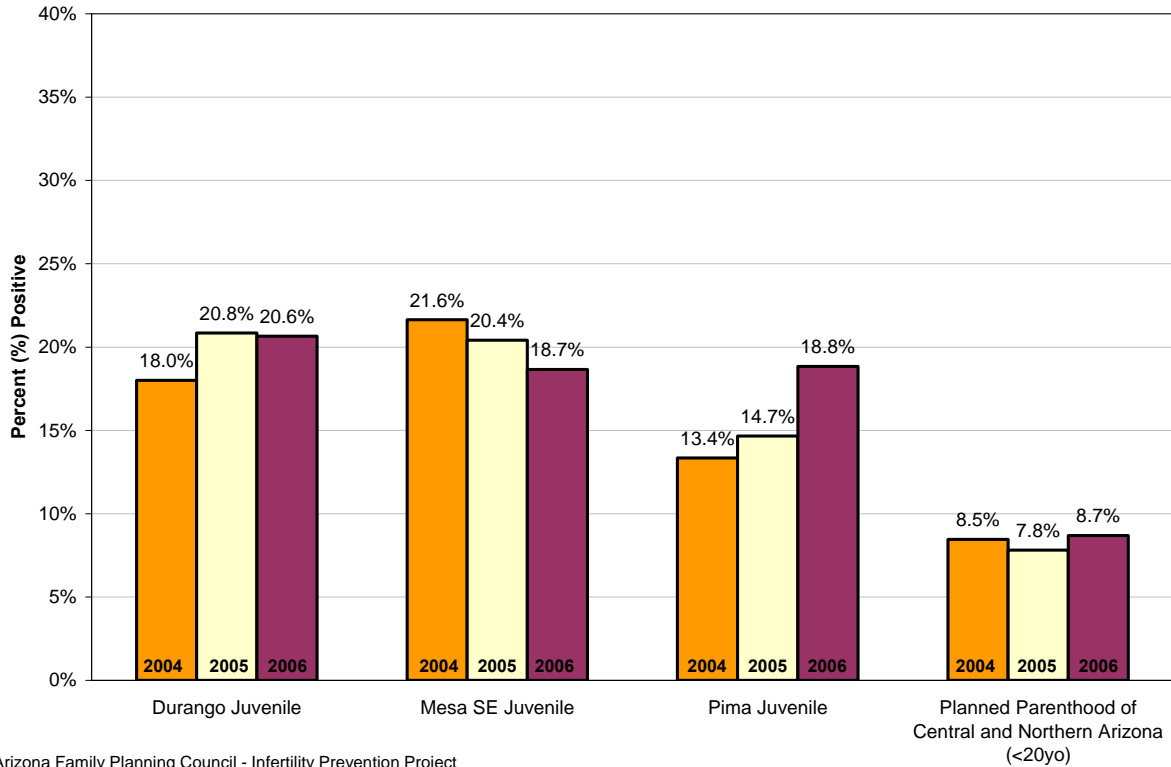
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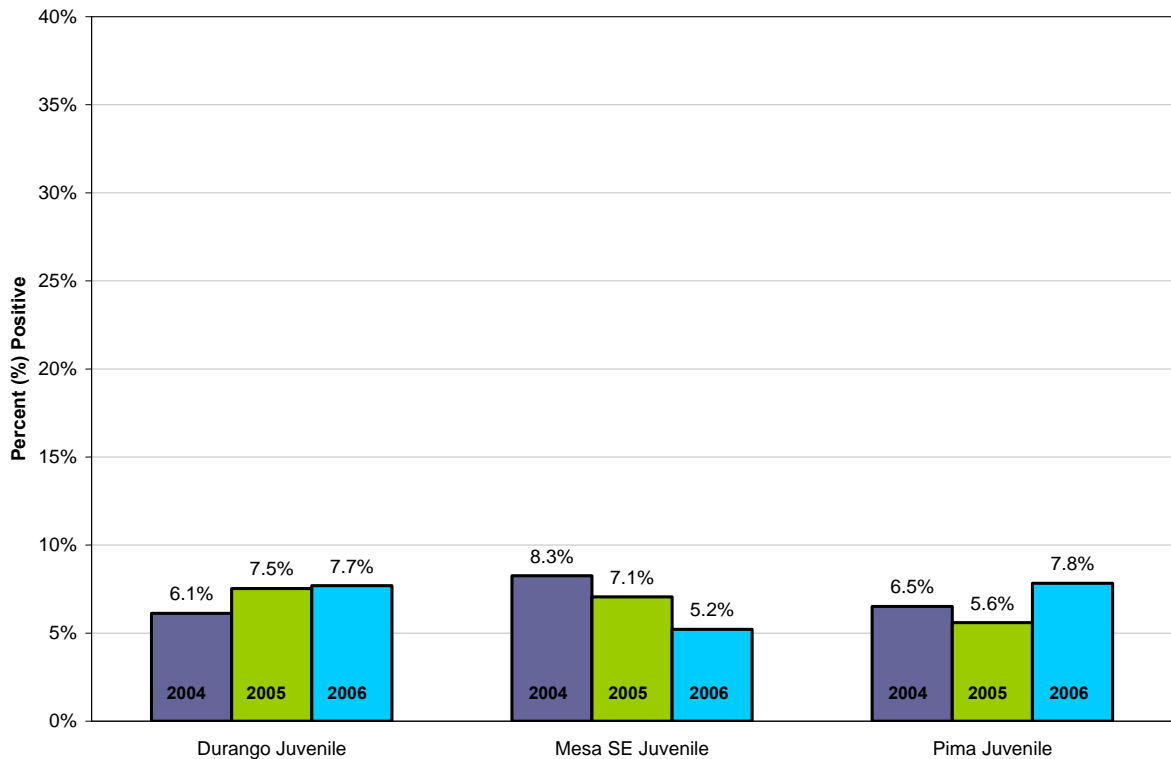
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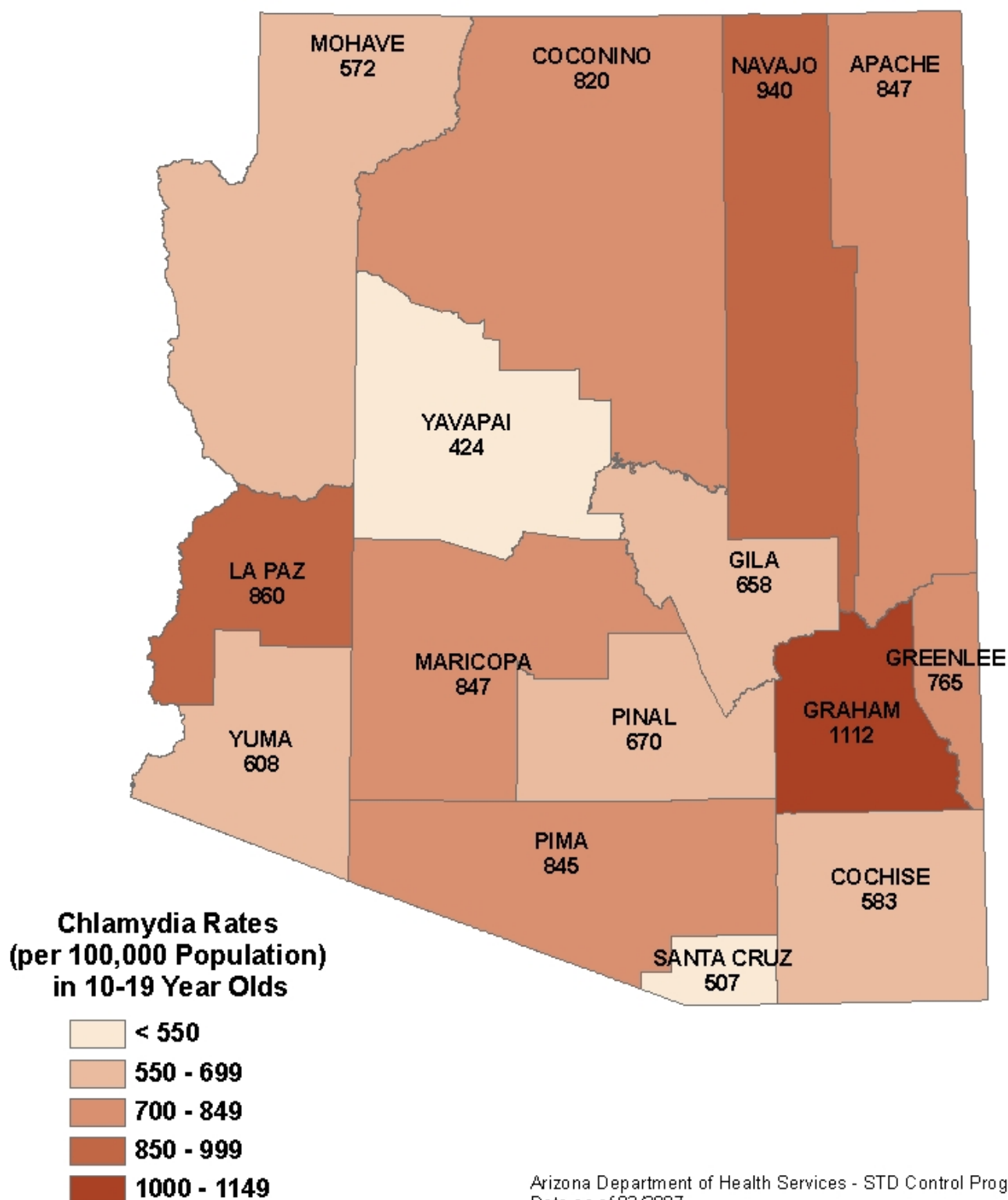
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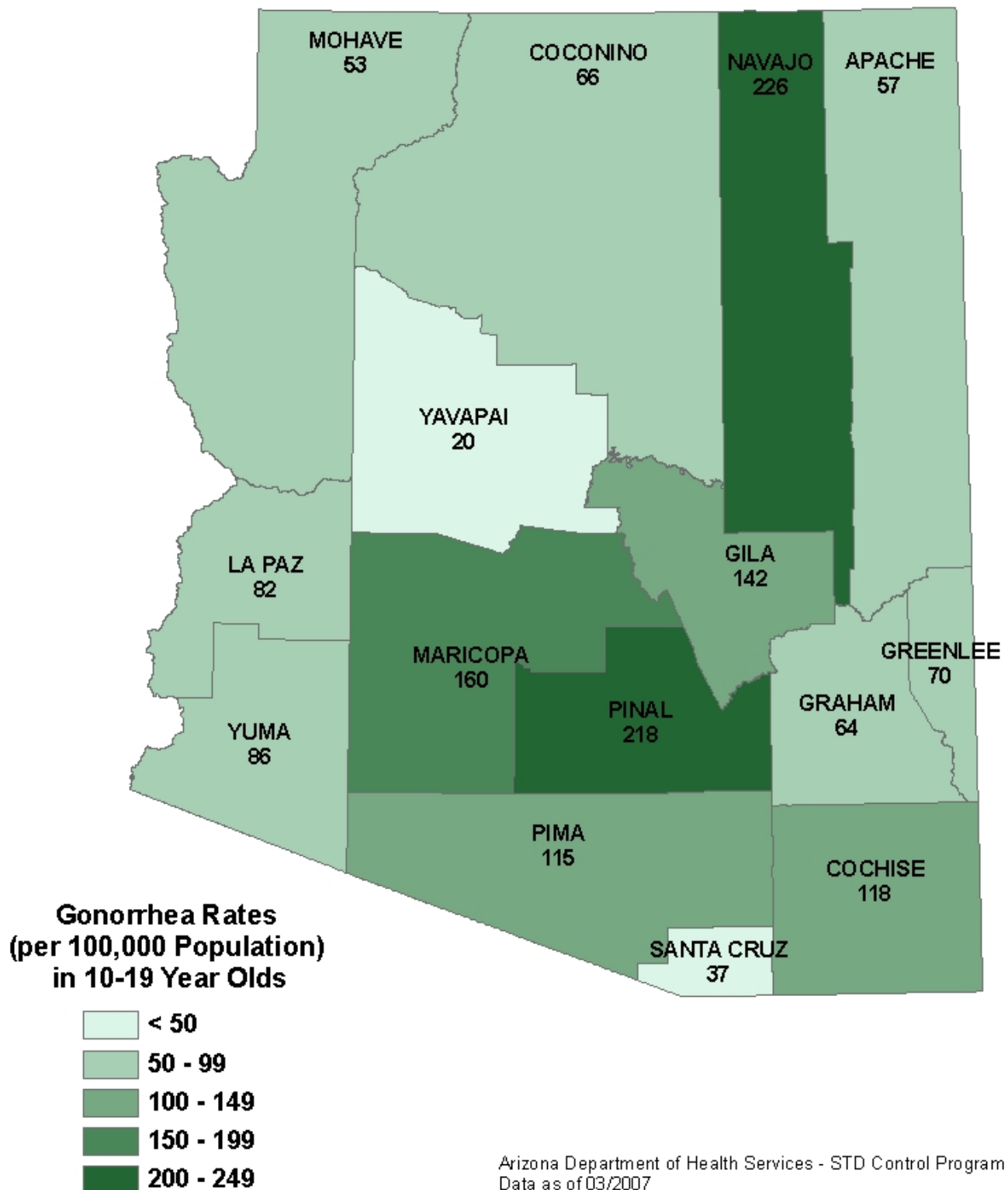


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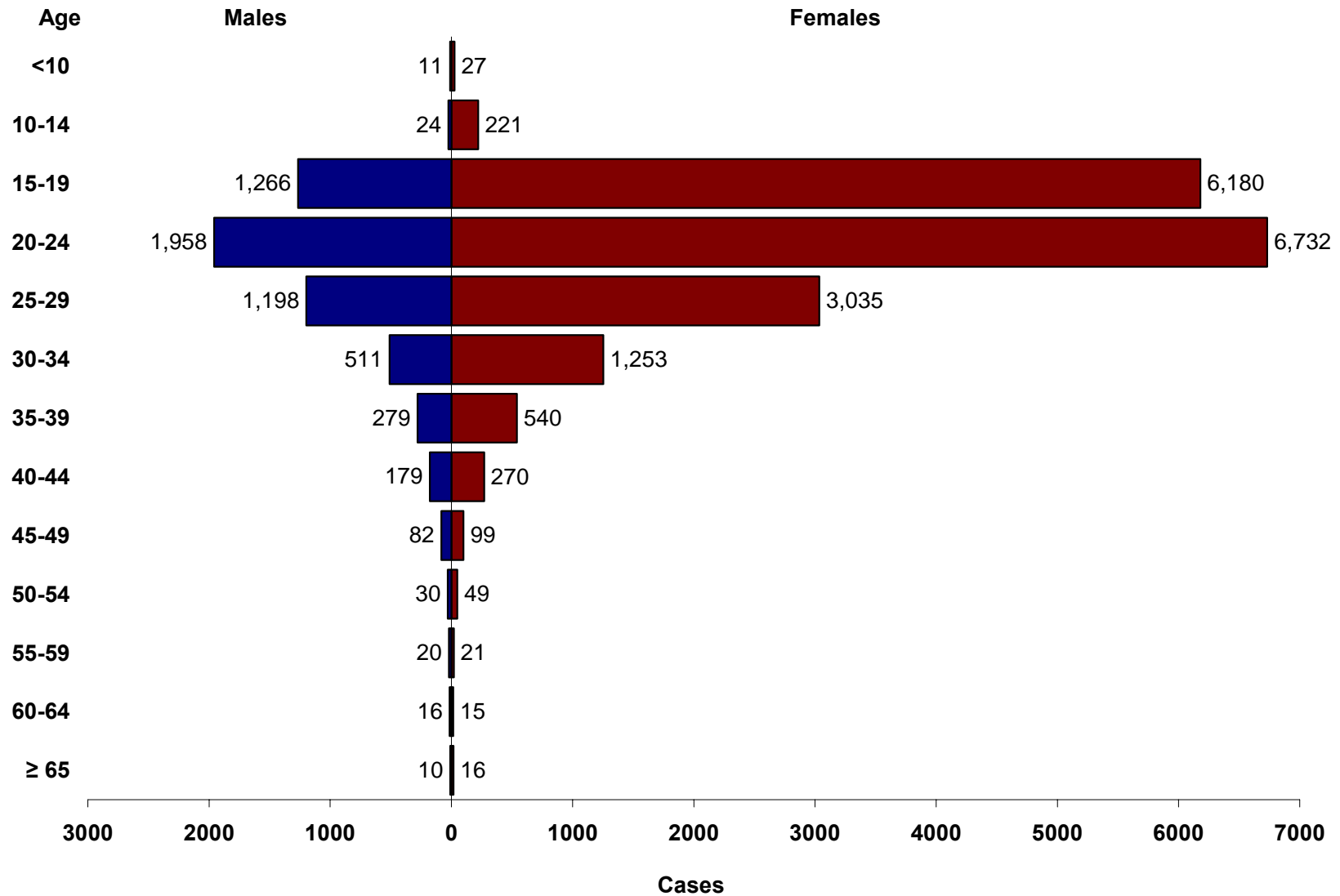


Arizona Department of Health Services - STD Control Program
Data as of 03/2007

Gonorrhea Rates (per 100,000 Population) in 10-19 Year Olds, Arizona, 2006



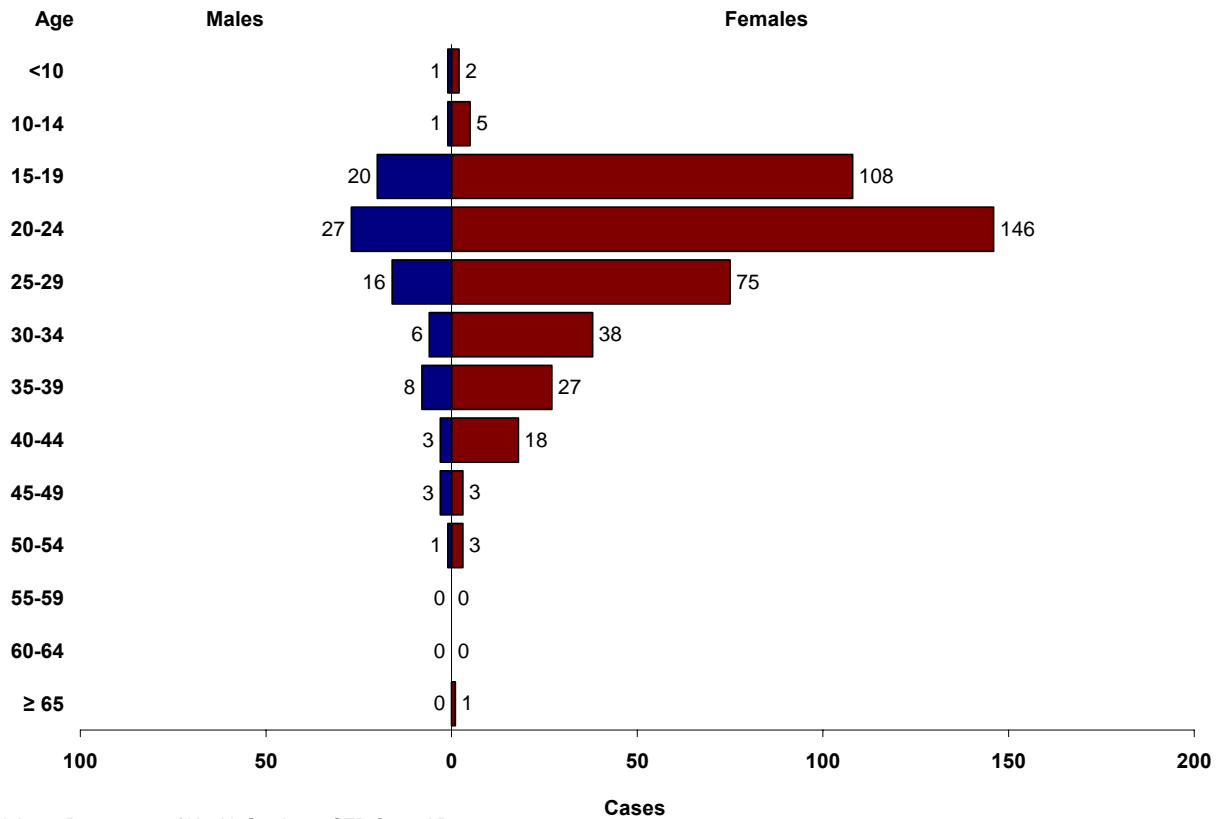
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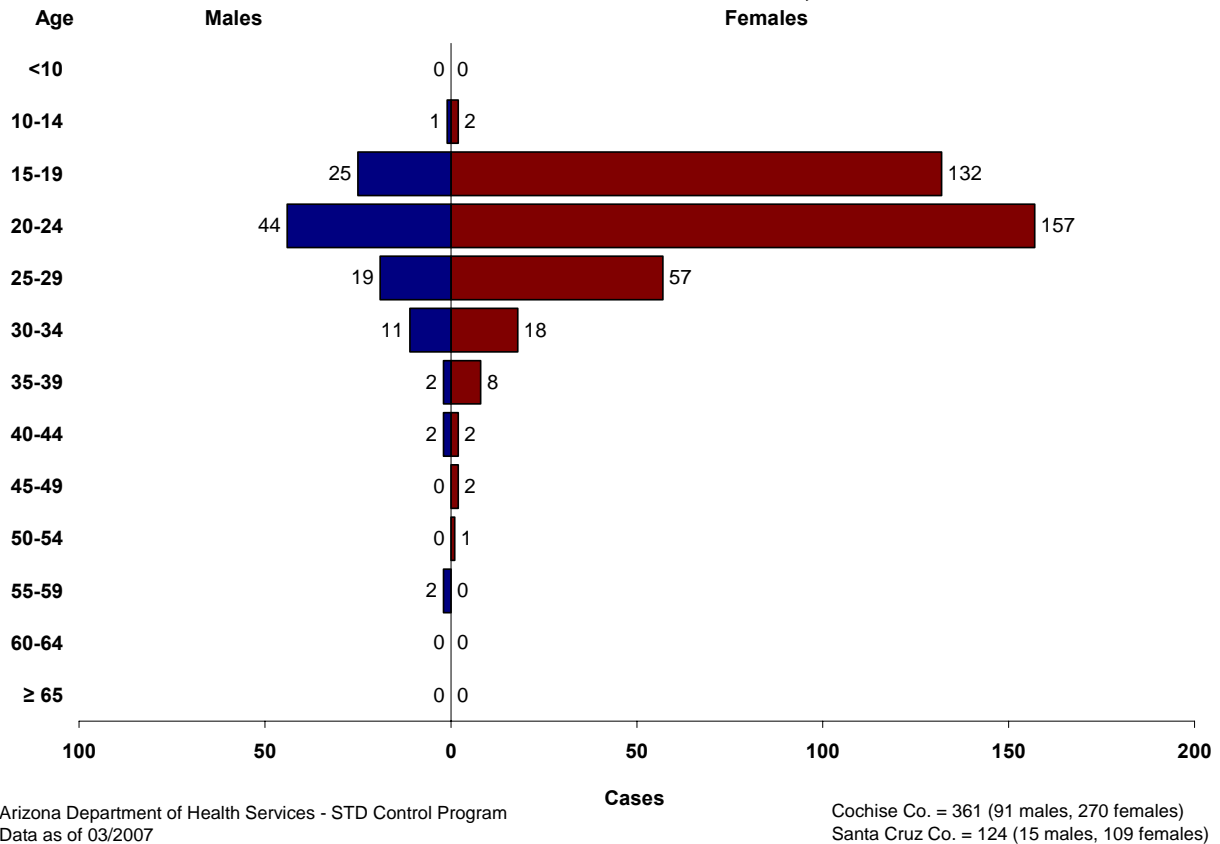
Arizona Department of Health Services - STD Control Program
Data as of 03/2007

N = 24,060 (5,584 males, 18,458 females,
12 unknown gender, and 6 transgender persons)

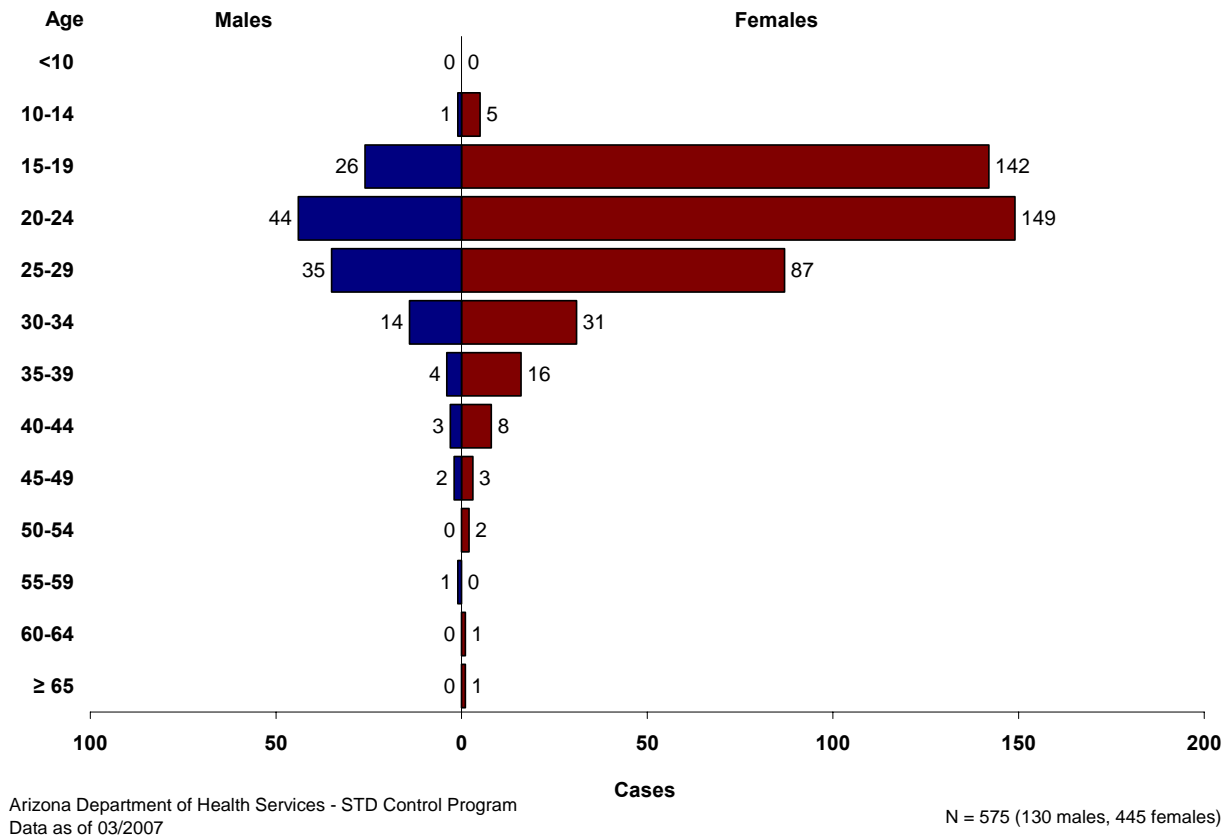
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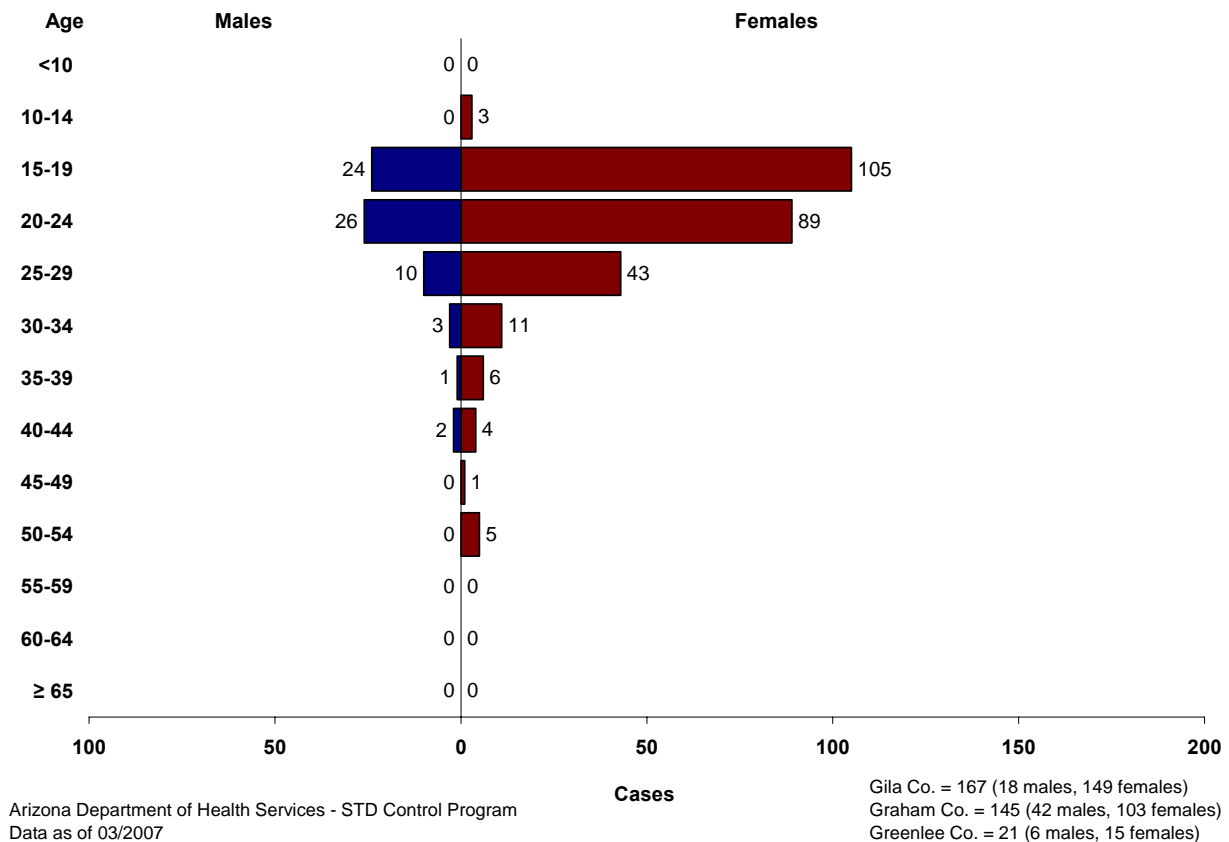
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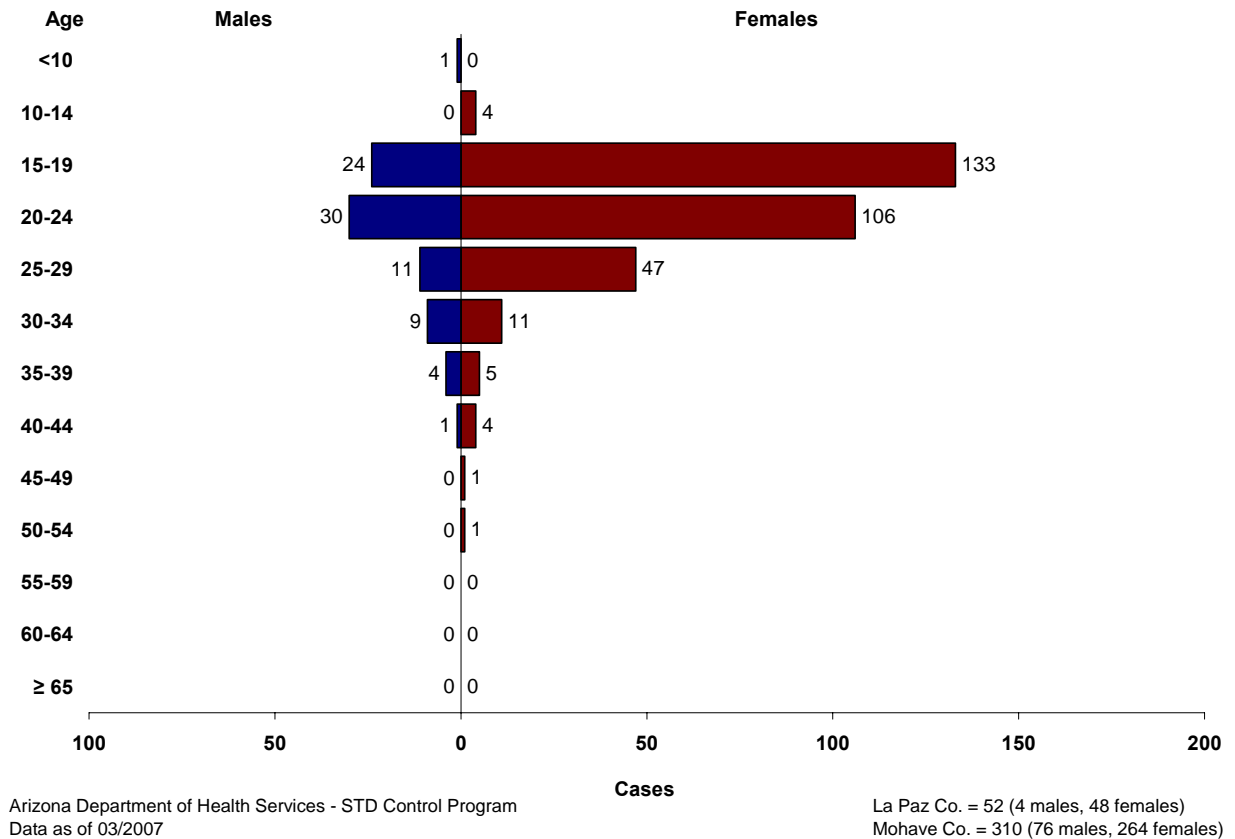
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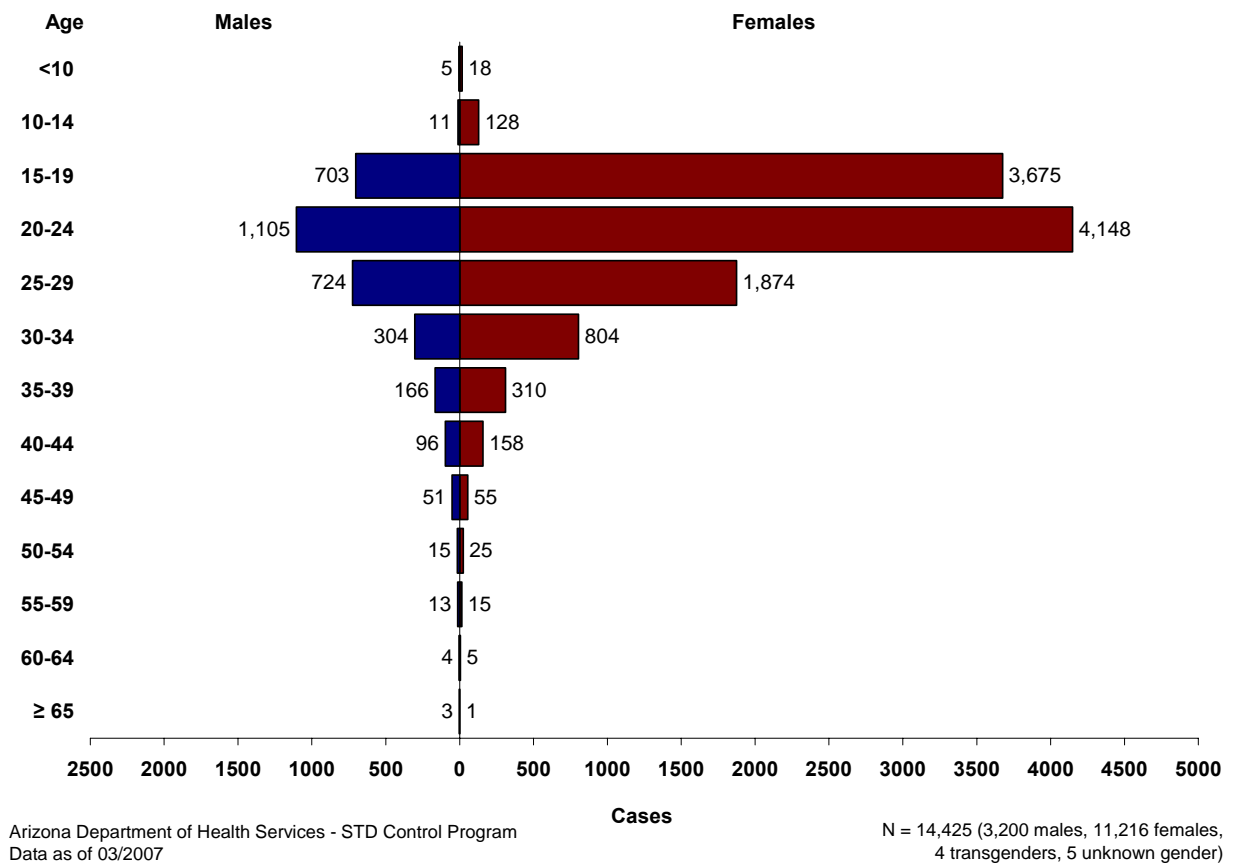
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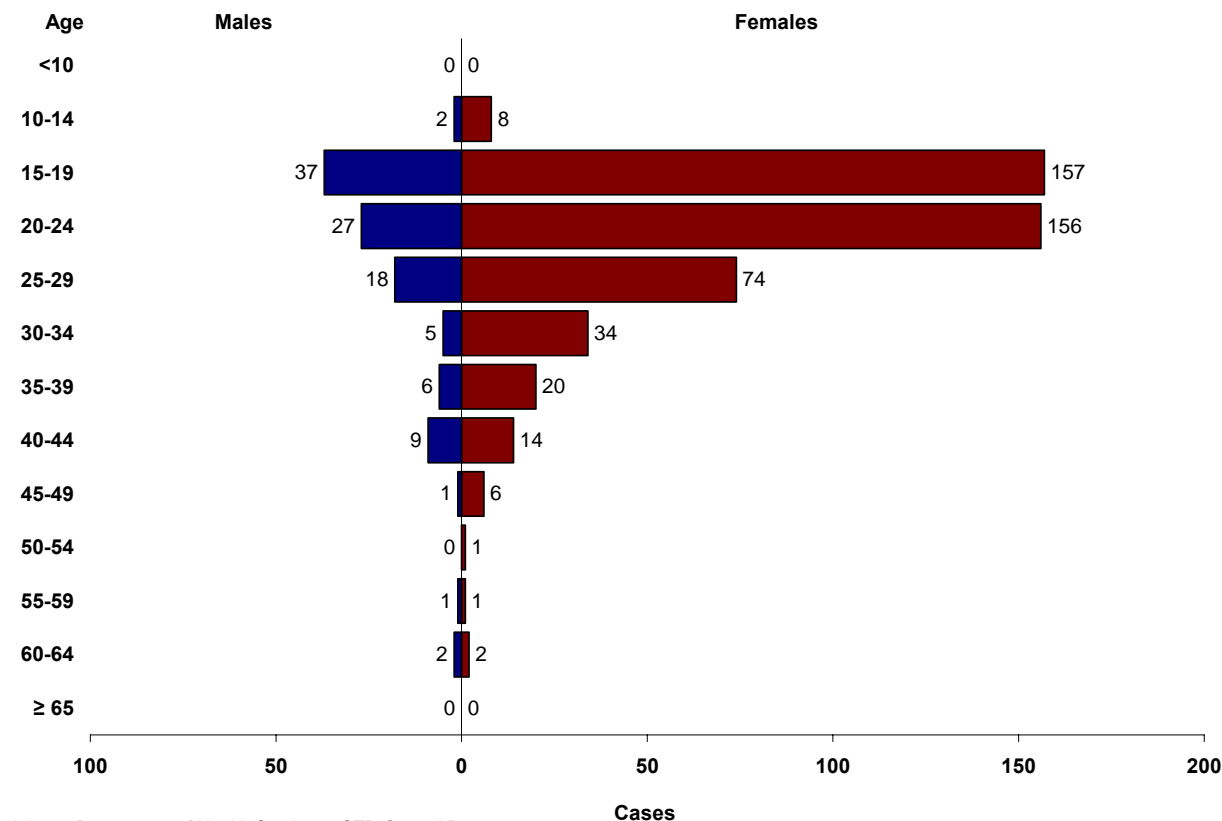
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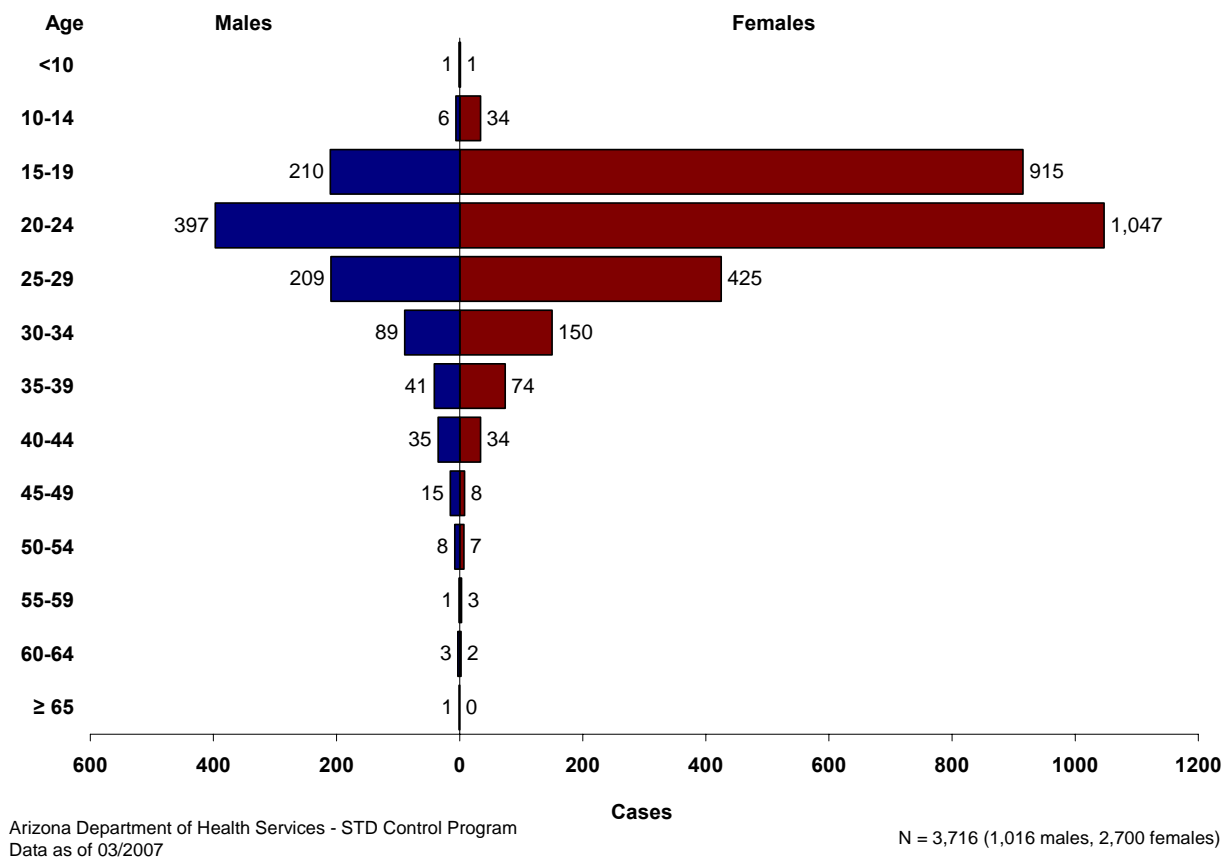
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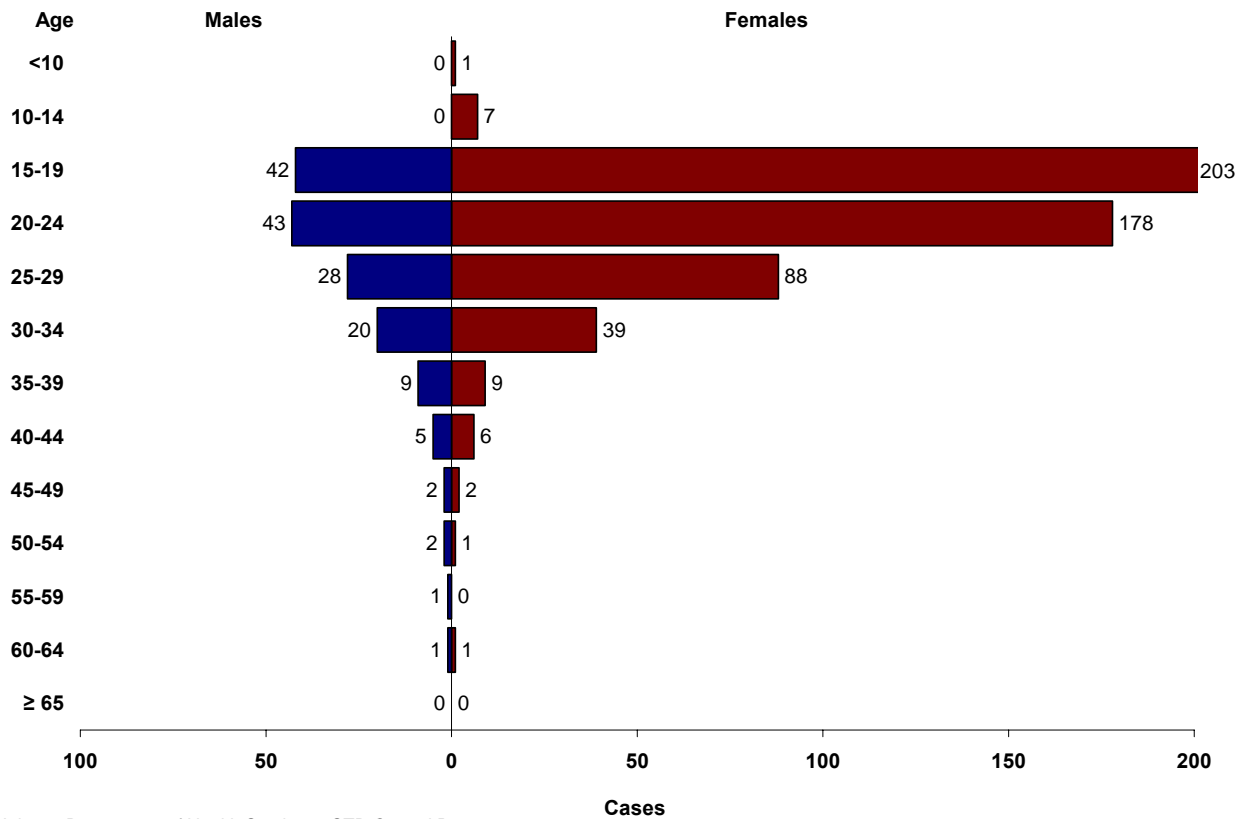
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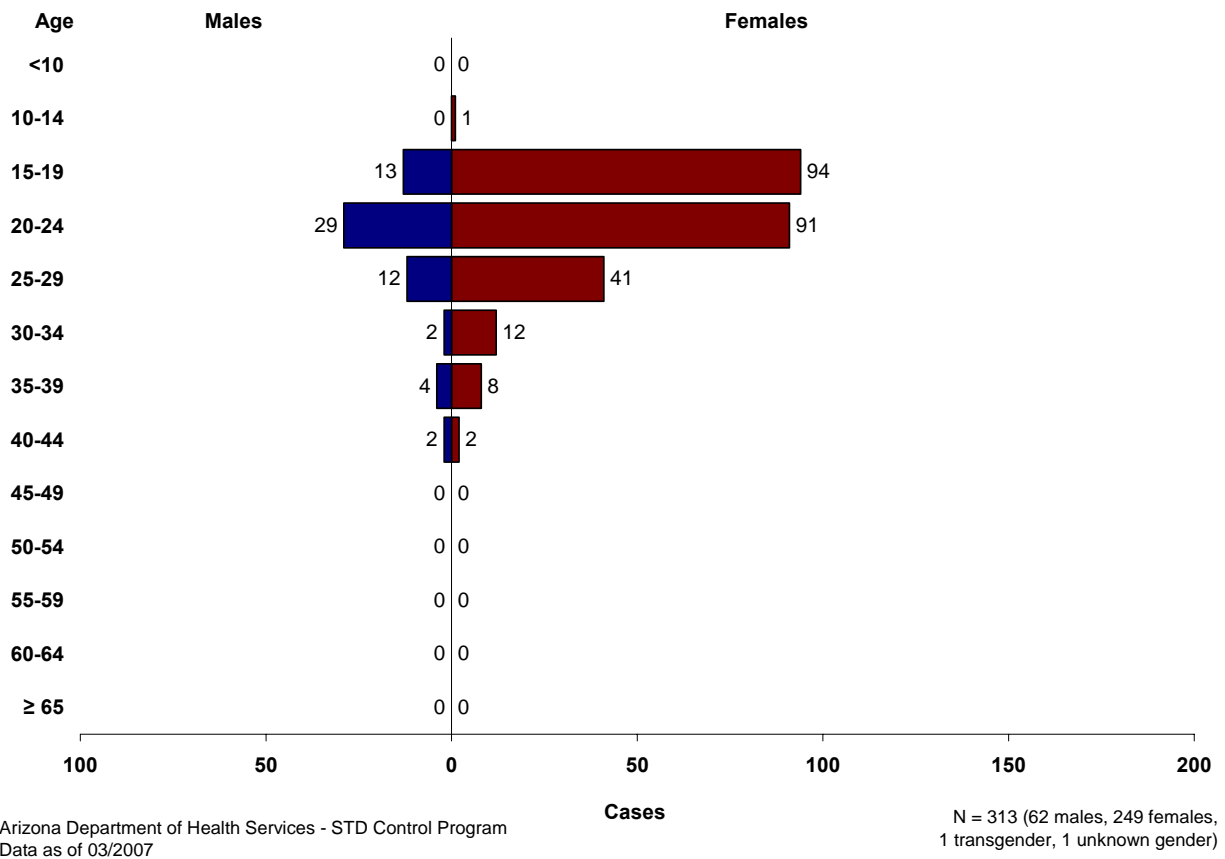
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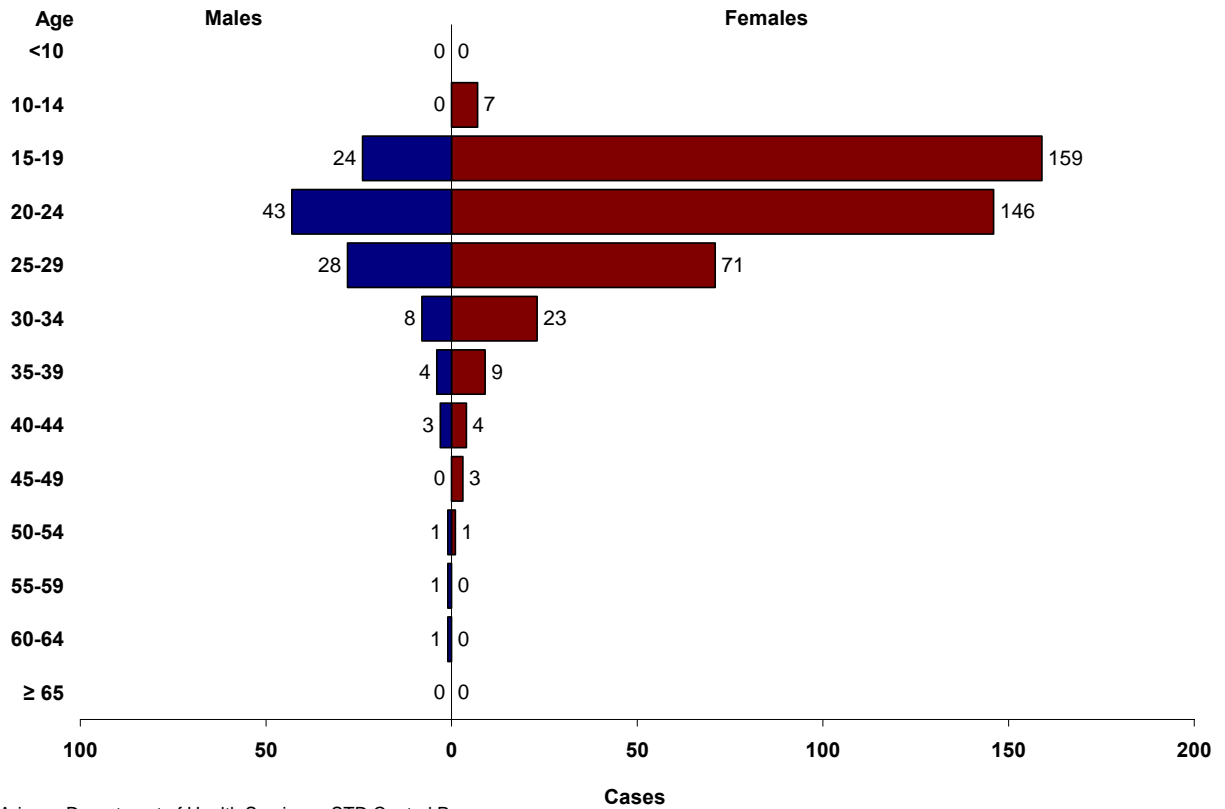
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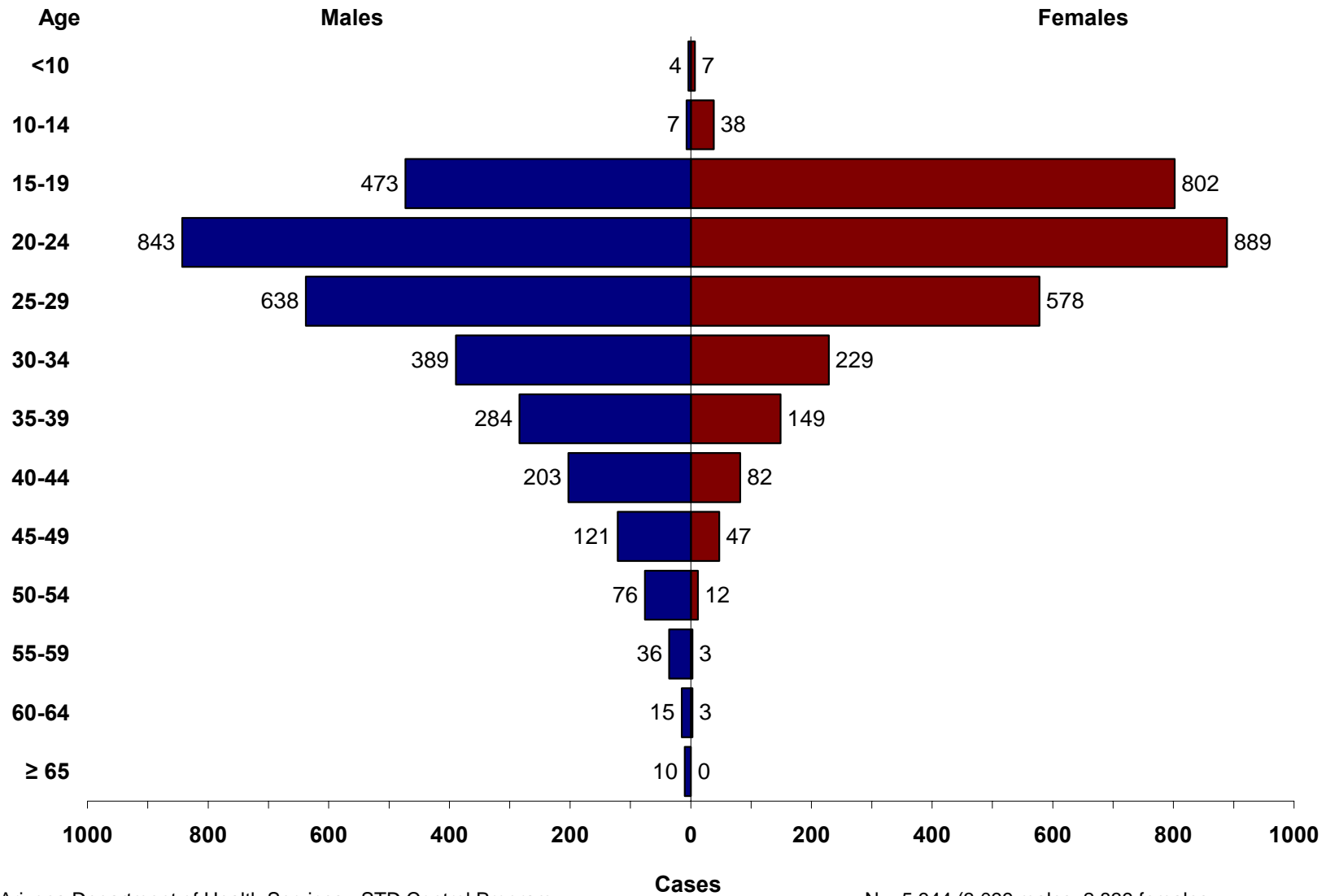
Chlamydia Cases by Age Group and Gender, Yavapai County, 2006



Chlamydia Cases by Age Group and Gender, Yuma County, 2006



Gonorrhea Cases by Age Group and Gender, Arizona, 2006



Arizona Department of Health Services - STD Control Program
Data as of 03/2007

N = 5,944 (3,099 males, 2,839 females,
3 unknown gender, and 3 transgender persons)

Female Gonorrhea Cases by Age and County, Arizona, 2006

Age Group	Apache	Cochise & Santa Cruz	Coconino	Gila, Graham, & Greenlee	La Paz & Mohave	Maricopa	Navajo	Pima	Pinal	Yavapai	Yuma	Arizona*
<10	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	7
10-14	0	0	0	2	0	24	1	6	3	0	1	38
15-19	7	19	8	11	10	513	26	94	57	4	19	802
20-24	9	21	7	15	10	588	23	113	42	3	15	889
25-29	6	3	8	10	5	389	9	84	26	1	10	578
30-34	3	5	2	0	4	145	4	31	13	3	6	229
35-39	2	1	3	0	0	91	1	26	7	1	1	149
40-44	0	1	0	0	3	47	2	13	4	3	1	82
45-49	0	0	0	0	0	28	1	12	2	0	1	47
50-54	1	0	1	0	0	8	0	1	0	0	0	12
55-59	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	3
60-64	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
≥ 65	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	28	50	30	38	32	1,838	67	383	154	15	54	2,839

* Arizona totals include 150 females with unknown county of residence

Male Gonorrhea Cases by Age and County, Arizona, 2006

Age Group	Apache	Cochise & Santa Cruz	Coconino	Gila, Graham, & Greenlee	La Paz & Mohave	Maricopa	Navajo	Pima	Pinal	Yavapai	Yuma	Arizona*
<10	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	4
10-14	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	1	0	0	0	7
15-19	2	8	6	3	5	309	22	58	22	1	7	473
20-24	3	20	6	7	10	574	14	111	25	4	15	843
25-29	6	9	11	5	8	428	6	86	23	7	6	638
30-34	2	8	5	3	2	267	4	49	15	1	3	389
35-39	1	2	2	1	2	212	6	28	9	1	2	284
40-44	1	4	1	2	0	135	1	37	5	3	0	203
45-49	1	2	0	2	0	81	1	20	5	2	0	121
50-54	1	0	1	0	1	62	0	5	1	0	0	76
55-59	0	0	1	0	0	27	0	3	0	0	0	36
60-64	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	4	0	0	1	15
≥ 65	2	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	1	0	0	10
Total	19	53	33	23	28	2,118	54	404	106	19	34	3,099

* Arizona totals include 208 males with unknown county of residence